

Merchantville, NJ July 13, 2020

A regular meeting of Borough Council was held on ZOOM at 7:30 PM, Monday, July 13, 2020. Mayor Ted Brennan presided. Pledge of Allegiance and Silent Prayer were observed for two (2) men killed in Pennsauken car accident and Merchantville house owner passed. Announcement was made that the meeting had been advertised in accordance with the regulations prescribed by the "Open Public Meetings Act".

Moment of Silence for men killed in Pennsauken Car Accident and the passing of the Merchant House Owner.

**ROLL CALL:**

Council Present: Sean Fitzgerald, Andrew McLoone, Anthony Perno at 7:35, Maria Nina Scarpa, Raymond Woods, and Edward Brennan. Attorney Timothy Higgins, CFO Denise Moules and Clerk Denise Brouse were present.

**PUBLIC:**

Jim Uriccio, 110 Lexington Avenue, Ongoing issues with 320 West Maple Avenue. Pool, grass, animals, and other issues, please monitor.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

On the motion of Mr. Woods and second of Mr. Fitzgerald council approves minutes - Council 4/13/20  
On the motion of Mr. Fitzgerald and second of Mr. McLoone council approves minutes - Council 5/4/20  
On the motion of Mr. Woods and second of Mr. Fitzgerald council approves minutes – Council 5/11/20  
On the motion of Mr. Woods and second of Mr. Perno council approves minutes - Caucus 4/27/20

**ENGINEER REPORT:** Report Attached

60-90 days run pump \$30,000 for testing.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Letter regarding Diversity Committee

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Mr. Woods – No news to report.

Ms. Scarpa – Court \$2,588 June 21 added 51 disposed \$48,489 in 2020. Shade Tree Commission – Tree trimming in town and with Public Works. Spotted Lantern Fly tree removals. Email issues to Shade Tree not on social media. Want to discuss issues regarding Lantern flies report Spotted Lantern Flies to site.

Mr. Fitzgerald – Fire 23 calls 106 for year drills. Kevin Patti is going to Army Guard. Health Department getting ready for meeting next week. Public Events, Music Fest later this year and may need plan B. Meeting for Public Events this week. Website meeting and discussion and may need to move to a different platform. Looking at other town sites and how to move forward. Looking for intern for social media person. OEM meeting weekly. Blood drive tomorrow at Community Center. Business Association zoom

meeting. Twisted Middle Sister opened in town. School meeting regarding reopening and options online/hybrid/open prepare. 1<sup>st</sup> Colonial Grant is available. Mayor wants to brainstorm Monsterville and how it could happen at some new level.

Mr. McLoone – Police answered 820 calls, 30 parking, 7 arrests, and 14 virus related. Police are doing a lot of good things. Rob Roseboro purchased three (3) bikes for families that had stolen bikes in June. Debrief of Wellwood. Thank all that came out it was a great turnout. Wanted to follow up words with action.

- Commitment to continue dialog with community 2 at Wellwood and 2 at Community Center will be scheduled soon.
- Improve reporting on police in meetings regarding data race/force etc.
- Foot patrol has begun.
- Bike unit looking for support, funding, and training from Council.
- More interaction with police and school.
- Council review of policy and procedure, and general orders oversight.
- Support for social services issues how can we partner with social services.
- Continuously be inclusive desire to bring into the police forces diversity in department.
- List will continue to grow.

Mayor responded Camden County July 16 @ 12:30 Forum Town Hall. It is Virtual, see what Camden County is doing. Google doc that is requesting questions due 7/15. Will get onto our website. How can we be as good as we can be? Police do so much that adds value and we need to talk about those things. Resolution on agenda for diversity committee business owners/council/residents/religious order. Suggest policies and procedures boards/commissions/ council/staff looks like our comments. Borough will be advertising at alternative locations to place ads for employment with diversity. Establish other areas to get information out in new areas. Encourage diverse to learn, mentor, and get involved.

Mr. Perno – Abandoned properties looking at MPWC and company lists for water turned off. Budget revenues down, keep expenses down, budget tight, cutting spending.

Ms. Moules – Tax rate came in and can send bills out without estimated billing.

#### **CLERK'S REPORT:**

Tax bills were mailed and are due by August 18, 2020  
 The Tax sale will be on September 24, 2020  
 Vital Statistics office is now open by appointment  
 The Audit is scheduled to begin in the Borough  
 2019 Road Project will begin by the end of the month  
 A TAP grant pre design meeting has been scheduled through Zoom

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- DISCUSSION –  
 Update on Covid 19 in Merchantville. No cases in 7 days still around 54 total. OEM meets once a week. Helping to support businesses during this time.
- DISCUSSION  
 Wellwood Forum Update

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTIONS to be read by consent agenda:** On the motion of Mr. Fitzgerald and second of Mr. Perno, Council approved the following resolutions:

**R20-88**

**RESOLUTION CERTIFYING A LIEN AGAINST CERTAIN PROPERTIES FOR COSTS INCURRED BY THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Chapter 3 of the Code of the Borough of Merchantville entitled the "Property Maintenance Code", notice of noncompliance was sent to the below properties,

**WHEREAS**, said property owners did not comply with said notice and the Merchantville Public Works Department was ordered to abate the violations; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of this Governing Body, in accordance with Chapter 60B of the Code of the Borough of Merchantville, to certify said costs incurred by the Merchantville Public Works Department as a lien against the properties; in accordance with Chapter 3 of the Code of the Borough of Merchantville.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Merchantville, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, that the following lien is hereby certified as against the property as noted in accordance with Chapter 3 of the Code of the Borough of Merchantville:

320 W Maple Avenue	(6/18)	\$250.00
11 W Walnut Ave	(6/18)	\$250.00
50 W Chestnut Ave	(6/29)	\$250.00
319 Woodbine Ave	(6/30)	\$250.00

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Borough Clerk shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to the owner(s) of the subject property.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Tax Collector shall be responsible for collection of the amounts herein certified.

**R20-89**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE**

**WHEREAS**, NJS 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the Director may also approve the insertion of an appropriation for the equal amount;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Governing Body of the Borough of Merchantville, in the County of Camden, New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of items of revenue in the budget of the year 2020 in the sum

of \$ **8,511.92**, which is now available as a revenue from the State Pursuant to the provision of the statute, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the like sum of **\$8,511.92** is hereby appropriated under the caption Special items of Recreation; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the above is a result of a donation of \$ **8,511.92** from:

2020 Clean Communities Grant – Solid Waste Administration	7,011.92
Safety Incentive Program – Camden County Joint Insurance Fund	1,500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,511.92</b>

#### **R20-90**

### **RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO RENEW ABC PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSE**

**WHEREAS**, Tulsi Merchantville LLC, 9-11 West Park Avenue, Merchantville, NJ, has applied for renewal of their Plenary Retail Distribution License for the year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 with an extended due date of September 30, 2020 due to Covid 19, applications have been filed and a check in the office at the Borough of Merchantville in the amount of \$1,250.00 each and checks to the State Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control in the amount of \$200.00; and

**WHEREAS**, Councilor Scarpa, director of the Department of Records and Licenses, has reported that the licensed premises were inspected to ascertain that they comply with all pertinent health and safety laws and regulations, and recommends the granting of said licenses; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Clerk has reported that the legal preliminaries have been strictly complied with;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Borough Council be and is hereby authorized to issue a Plenary Retail Distribution License #0424-44-002-009 to Tulsi Merchantville LLC..

#### **R20-91**

### **RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO RENEW ABC PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSE**

**WHEREAS**, First Jay Sai LLC, 620-622 W Maple Avenue, Merchantville, NJ, has applied for renewal of their Plenary Retail Distribution License for the year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 with the extension due date of September and ap0, 2020 due to Covid 19, applications have been filed along with a check to the Borough of Merchantville in the amount of \$1,250.00 each and a check to the State Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control in the amount of \$200.00 each; and

**WHEREAS**, Councilwoman Scarpa, director of the Department of Records and Licenses, has reported that the licensed premises were inspected to ascertain that they comply with all pertinent health and safety laws and regulations, and recommends the granting of said licenses; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Clerk has reported that the legal preliminaries have been strictly complied with;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Borough Council be and is hereby authorized to issue a Plenary Retail Distribution License #0424-44-001-010 to First Jay Sai LLC..

**R20-92**  
**RESOLUTION TO RENEW ABC PLENARY RETAIL**  
**CONSUMPTION LICENSE**

**WHEREAS**, MANASUR INC., 2 South Centre Street has applied for renewal of their Plenary Retail Consumption License for the year July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021, with the extension due date of September 30, 202 due to Covid 19. Applications have been filed with the State and the check to the Borough of Merchantville in the amount of \$1,250.00; and

**WHEREAS**, Councilor Scarpa Director of the Department of Records and Licenses, has reported that the licensed premises were inspected to ascertain that they comply with all pertinent health and safety laws and regulations, and recommends the granting of said licenses; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Clerk has reported that the legal preliminaries have been strictly complied with;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Borough Council be and is hereby authorized to issue a Plenary Retail Consumption License #0424-33-003-007 to MANASUR INC.

**R20-93**  
**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE,**  
**COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY ESTABLISHING**  
**A DIVERSITY COMMITTEE IN AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF**  
**MERCHANTVILLE**

**WHEREAS**, in light of current event throughout the United States, the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville believes that the elimination of all types of discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or physical, mental or cognitive disability is in the best interests of the Borough of Merchantville and the country in general; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville believes that the establishment of a Diversity Committee in and for the Borough of Merchantville will aid and assist in the above-stated goal; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor & Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville hereby establishes a Diversity Committee in and for the Borough of Merchantville, and it shall be the task of the Committee, among other things:

- a. to recommend policy proposals to the Mayor and Borough Council, and to assist with promoting prejudice reduction based upon a person's race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or physical, mental or cognitive disability within the Borough of Merchantville; and

- b. to act as a resource for information and program ideas will aid in the elimination of all types of discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or physical, mental or cognitive disability within the Borough of Merchantville; and
- c. to make recommendations to Mayor and Borough Council for the development of policies and procedures in general and for programs of formal and informal education that will aid in eliminating all types of discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or physical, mental or cognitive disability within the Borough of Merchantville; and
- d. any other function that would promote the goal of the Diversity Committee elimination of all types of discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or physical, mental or cognitive disability within the Borough of Merchantville.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Diversity Committee shall consist of a maximum of eleven (11) members, the majority of which shall be residents of the Borough of Merchantville, appointed yearly by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Borough Council. One (1) member of this Committee shall be a member of the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville, with the Mayor serving as an ex officio member of the Merchantville Diversity Committee.

#### **R20-94**

### **BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE   October 2020-June 2021 FORM 1B**

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

**WHEREAS**, The Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville, County of Camden, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore, has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Camden;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough of Merchantville, County of Camden, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Borough Council does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Merchantville Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2020 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$ 2,305.36
Cash Match	\$ 576.34

In-Kind                      \$ 1,729.02                      Total \$4,610.72

2. The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

## FINANCIAL REPORTS

### PAYMENT OF BILLS

On the motion of Mr. Perno and second of Mr. McLoone council approved the bills list:

#### R20-96 RESOLUTION

**RESOLVED** that the Report of the Department of Accounts and Auditing be accepted and spread upon the minutes and the Treasurer be is hereby authorized to pay bill approved therein.

CURRENT FUND		REVENUE	BUDGET
CHECKS CURRENT FUND	2019 BUDGET	\$	14,253.50
	2020 BUDGET	\$ 6,687.47	\$ 120,402.47
	GRANTS		\$ 171.60
	PFRS		
	PERS		
	DEBT SERVICE	\$	350,417.50
	BOARD OF EDUCATION*		
	MEDICAL DEDUCTIBLE		
	CAMDEN COUNTY		
WIRE TRANSFERS PAYROLL	6/19/20-7/3/20	\$	145,091.15
WIRES / MANUAL CHECKS		\$	55,492.54
TOTAL CURRENT		\$ 6,687.47	\$ 685,828.76
<b>SEWER UTILITY</b>			
CHECKS SEWER FUND	2020 BUDGET	\$	616.09
	2019 BUDGET	\$	-
	DEBT SERVICE	\$	105,813.12
WIRE TRANSFERS PAYROLL	6/19/20-7/3/20		\$6,324.28
WIRE NJEIT LOAN			
WIRES /MANUAL CHECKS			
TOTAL SEWER		\$ -	\$ 112,753.49
<b>GENERAL CAPITAL FUND</b>			
CHECK CAPITAL FUND		\$	8,989.58
MANUAL CHECK		\$	46,747.80
WIRE TRANSFERS PAYROLL	6/19/20-7/3/20		
TOTAL CAPITAL		\$ -	\$ 55,737.38
<b>TRUST FUND</b>			
CHECK TRUST OTHER FUND		\$	3,195.85
REDEVELOPER TRUST		\$	3,620.00
WIRE TRANSFERS PAYROLL	6/19/20-7/3/20		27,121.00

WIRES / MANUAL CHECKS				8,600.00
	TOTAL TRUST	\$	-	\$ 3,443.50
<b>SEWER CAPITAL FUND</b>				
CHECK SEWER CAPITAL				
MANUAL CHECKS				
WIRE TRANSFERS PAYROLL				
	TOTAL SEWER CAPITAL	\$	-	\$ -
<b>ANIMAL TRUST FUND</b>				
ANIMAL TRUST CHECK			\$	350.00
	TOTAL ANIMAL TRUST	\$	-	\$ 350.00
<b>TOTAL BILL LIST &amp; MANUAL CHECKS/WIRE</b>				
		\$	6,687.47	\$ 858,113.13
	GRAND TOTAL	\$		<b>864,800.60</b>

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Diversity meeting dates will follow.

**PRIVATE SESSION –**

On the motion of Mr. McLoone and second of Mr. Fitzgerald, Council approved the following resolution to go into private session.

**R20-95**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE,  
COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
AUTHORIZING A PRIVATE SESSION OF COUNCIL**

**Andrew McLoone** offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**WHEREAS**, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Merchantville, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matters.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

**Matters of Personnel**

3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter shall be made public.



4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Seconded by **Sean Fitzgerald** and adopted on roll call by the following vote:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Fitzgerald	( x )	( )	( )	( )
Mr. McLoone	( x )	( )	( )	( )
Mr. Perno	( x )	( )	( )	( )
Ms. Scarpa	( x )	( )	( )	( )
Mr. Sperrazza	( )	( )	( )	( x )
Mr. Woods	( x )	( )	( )	( )

Dated: **July 13, 2020**

**ADJOURNMENT:** On the motion of Mr. McLoone and second of Mr. Woods the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

**ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROVIDED  
OFFICIAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN AT THIS MEETING  
AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

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**Denise Brouse, Borough Clerk**